Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : The review of Government on the report of the Excise Department says that the detection of offences for malpractices is on the increase. But the answer now given by the Commissioner is that illicit tapping and offences connected with it are not on the increase. How can I take it that the latter statement of the Commissioner is correct?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : The answer says that there is nothing to warrant a finding that malpractices have increased.

Mr. S. Piraviperumal Pillai : Then, is the conclusion arrived at by Government that when detection of offences is on the increase, illicit tapping is also on the increase a mere guess?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : Probably, the member bases his question on an assumption. It is not possible to answer such a question.

Mr K. P. Nilakanta Pillai : Sir, may I make a statement? Is it not the duty of the head of the department to be in possession of relevant records, such as the administration reports and the Government orders thereon?

Auction sale of Mannamkantam.

74. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether it was with the intention of making it available to the poor people also that Mannamkantam was divided into small blocks and sold in auction?

Mr. K. George (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*) Yes.

(The answer was read also in malayalam.)

Money spent on the purchase of tobacco.

75. ***Mr. J. John Kattakayam:** Will the Government be pleased to state the amount of money that goes out of Travancore for purchasing tobacco?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : A * statement giving the required information is laid on the table.

(The answer was read also in malayalam.)

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know from the member whether there are places in Travancore suitable for the cultivation of tobacco?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : There may be places. The matter has not been investigated.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know whether the Commissioner has consulted the Director of Agriculture in this matter?

Mr. C. O. Madhavan : The question has long been engaging the attention of Government and the Director of Agriculture might have been consulted several times.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly